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Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 01371 311352Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPIC-03 TRSY-02 INT-05 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 AID-05 IO-13 EUR-12 /064 W
----------010835Z 094160 /13
R 311100Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1470
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL DOUALA BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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DEPT PASS OPIC FOR HENDERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EMIN, EINV, CM
SUBJ: CAMEROON IRON DEPOSITS

REF: 76 YAOUNDE 4197

1. DURING RECENT VISIT, CANADIAN COMMERCIAL ATTACHE IS KINSHASA INDICATED INTEREST IN WORKING WITH EMB YAOUNDE TO ATTRACT US AND/OR CANADIAN FIRMS TO LOOK AT IRON DEPOSITS. WE AGREED THAT DEPOSITS LOOK VERY GOOD, ALTHOUGH MUCH MORE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE IN DETERMINING QUANTITIES AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF IRON CONTENT. GIVEN US INVESTMENTS IN MINERALS IN GABON, ZAIRE, ETC., SOME REPS OF MAJOR US FIRMS MUST PASS THROUGH THIS AREA OCCASIONALLY. COULD YOU SUGGEST THAT THEY PAY A VISIT TO YAOUNDE FOR COURTESY CALL AND GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO POSSIBILITIES HERE. WHILE ACTUAL EXPLOITATION OF DEPOSITS WILL BE DELAYED PENDING DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, IT IS TIME FOR US FIRMS TO START
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ESTABLISHING LOCAL CONTACTS IF THEY HAVE ANY INTEREST AT ALL IN FUTURE EXPLOITATION.

2. UNDP IS CONTINUING EXPLORATION OF MINERALS IN SOUTH EAST STARTED BY CANADIANS CITED REFTEL. THEIR REPORT SHOULD BE READY BY MID-SUMMER. WITH COMBINED RESULTS UNDP AND CANADIAN WORK, GURC WILL CONTRACT OUT FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR

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DEVELOPMENT OF FARIOUS MINERAL DEPOSITS. IRON IS BY FAR MOST
ATTRACTIVE AT THIS TIME, BUT PRESENCE OF OTHER MINERALS ALSO
INDICATED. EMBASSY IS ATTEMPTING OBTAIN COPY OF CANADIAN REPORT.
KRUPP AND BRGM (FRENCH GEOLOGIC RESEARCH GROUP) ALREADY ATTEMPTING
TIE UP AREA NEAR COAST FOR MINERAL RESEARCH. WHILE THIS AREA NOT
CONSIDERED PARTICULARLY PROMISING, SUCH RIGHTS IF SECURED WOULD
PROVIDE ENTRE FOR FUTURE WORK IN SOUTHEAST. MAJOR DEPOSITS
BEGIN NEAR DJOUM (APPARENT EXTENSION OF BABONESE DEPOSITS) AND
EXTEND EASTWARD. GURC OFFICIALS CONFIRM IRON CONTENT RANGING
FROM 40 TO 75 PERCENT. ESTIMATED TOTAL OF 1 BILLION TONS.
MORE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE, HOWEVER, TO DETERMINE ECONOMIC
FEASIBILITY OF EXPLOITATION. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT WILL NO
DOUBT MAKE EXPLOITATION EXPENSIVE BUT MAJOR INTEGRATED FOREST
PROJECT (LIKE SOFIBEL) PLANNED FOR SANGMELIMA AREA MAY PROVIDE
BASIS FOR INCREASED FEASIBILITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
IN AREA OF MINERAL RESOURCES.
SPIRO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLORATION, IRON, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977YAOUND01371
Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770112-0067
Format: TEL
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977031/aaaaaafh.tel
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Reference: 76 YAOUNDE 4197
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 2931052
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAMEROON IRON DEPOSITS
TAGS: EMIN, EINV, CM, US, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/208507ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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